1020 S. Lansing St.,
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan,
September 19, 1928.

My dear Friends:

It has been my intentions for some time to write you just to show you a little of my regard and appreciation for all you and your church meant to me. And as it is Wednesday evening and my thoughts have been with you at your mid-week service I thought it a good time to tell you my thoughts and prayers were with you even tho I couldn't be. Somehow I find myself thinking of you all

every Sunday at eleven A. M. & again at seven thirty as well as each Wednesday and at such times I always pray for you and your church services that God's blessing may rest upon you. I know He is with you very abundantly and will continue to be. You people made us so much at home there that it seemed very much like leaving home to go away. And I for one will never forget the good people there the splendid sermons we alway heard and the welcome we were alway given. In these days when so many are straying away in their preaching it was a privilege to be able to hear such good sermons preached from the old gospel — old, yet ever new. And you can be proud to know that your son is following his father's footsteps in that way too. May God bless you & give you many years yet in His service and I hope I may have a chance to hear you again many times.

I surely miss the choir. It was a privilege to belong to such a good one. You can surely be proud of them. And they were always so good to us too. I know the memories of the days we spent with them, the hours of service and the social occasions will always be bright ones. We surely enjoyed doing our little bit. It was a privilege and a pleasure.

We are very comfortably located in a little home here at least for the present. We are hoping and praying

that my father may be able to get a church. We are so anxious to get a church home. It seems as tho there ought to be some place for us. The regular Baptists as they call themselves since separating from the State Convention have formed a Convention of their own and will have about fifty churches in it when they meet next week. They are the true Fundamental Baptists & decided they couldn't do any more with the ones

who were under control of the Modernists. The churches are certainly in a great state of unrest and its hard to tell how it will turn out. The right will prevail eventually I am sure. I know of one church that will never go astray while you are in it. If that I am sure. And the teachings and impressions you are giving them will always hold them true.

We found Bernice looking fine. She likes her work very much and has a very good position. I am hoping to find work before long but haven't been successful yet. Have been very busy getting settled & visiting between times with our relatives. It sure seemed good to see them all once more.

Robert, Ines & Allin are getting settled in Philadelphia now. The Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary opened the 18th of this month & I think both Robert & Ines expect to go. Ines will study music -

Perhaps when you go to Philadelphia you might happen to see them. Their address is 1323 N. 54th St., They are certainly very ambitious so I hope they make good.

Its beginning to feel like fall and the days are getting cool. We have had nice weather ever since we came.

I must close before you get tired of reading this. I sure miss seeing you as I usually did somewhere every day. May God Bless you both & the dear Old First Church. There will always be a warm place in my heart for the First Pres. Church at Delhi. With love to you both Sincerely Rachael.

Delhi, N. Y.
September 18, 1928

Rev. J. H. Thompson
Montgomery, N. Y.

Dear Old "Tompy":

It was good to receive your letter and I agree with your attitude. I incline to think the Directors will be cast out next May and I am not sure but they deserve it.

You are entitled to know what is going on. Ofcourse you are aware that our church today is controlled by a few men who are closely related to our two larger Boards. The Romish hierarchy is not more absolute than a dozen men, some of whom you and I knew well in other days. This company pick Moderators and committeemen, Board men and all the rest. The Assembly is a rubber stamp to their plans.

As to Princeton, we won a victory. Drs. Thompson, Erdman, Stevenson were deep in the dumps after the vote at Tulsa. Dr. Finney, a Director, raved to me and almost wept and declared that he and Stevenson would resign. However, the defeated company rallied and put through a mandate enjoining us all to refrain from discussion.

I might say that Dr. Ross Stevenson gave me the worst bawling out I ever received, in the lobby of the Mayo Hotel, several, especially John Grant Newman, being auditors. He said I lied, was misleading, unfair and a sneak under the guise of a friend. If I did not know from their own words and the testimony of their friends that Stevenson and Erdman are all sweetness and charity I might have suspicioned that they had angry passions like us miserable fundamental sinners. Erdman is more vicious against me than against any other. Guess my pamphlet got under his skin and he knows he told me more against Stevenson than anyone else has said. If he denies it he is a liar. I am the particular beast in the fold according to their rating.

Well, we met in Princeton in June. A committee consisting of Spear, Mudge, Finney (minority) and Warfield, McEwan, Laird (majority) were chosen to plan peace. They retired and consulted three hours or more. They accepted unanimously the proposition that Stevenson resign Presidency and become Professor of Homiletics. They drew up a sort of resolutions in which we all said we were sorry for naughty things and now henceforth and forever would be sweet to each other. Finney, Speer, Laird, McEwan saw Stevenson each alone. Stevenson wanted home time. Mudge had said in my hearing that Stevenson should resign. Stevenson went home and did not appear at the

meeting later. We passed the sweet resolutions. Warfield introduced a resolution asking Stevenson's resignation. It was postponed and made first order for next meeting which I expected in July but which has not been held yet. The fault for that lies with Mait Alexander for Laird, McEwan and I all urged it.

Finney and Speer spent the evening with Stevenson and reported that they tried to persuade him to resign. Finney asked McEwan to see him to persuade him. McEwan wrote and telegraphed asking a meeting but so far as I have heard received no reply.

Last week I received a letter from a Director stating that Speer and Finney instead of urging Stevenson to resign urged him not to, when he was willing. I have that in writing from a responsible man. If that be true what honor and honesty can you find even in holy Speer? I say if it be true. I have it as a written unproven statement but I am sorry to say that from observations and dealings with Speer during many years my heart is not prompt to doubt it. He is the ablest, most ambitious man in our church and I am coming to think the trickiest. I have counted him friend for over 40 years. Somebody is double-crossing. Of that I am confident. I would be very slow to think evil but I know that Charles Erdman, through pride of purse, through social and ecclesiastical ambition is very different from the man we knew ten years ago. Stevenson is simply a tool in other hands. He must hold his job.

We have faulted greatly in not meeting often, electing professors and doing a lot of things. We have been too passive. The Stevenson-Erdman crowd hold the power in the Assembly, they beat us ten to one in political shrewdness, they are determined and not always frank. Stevenson is a queer bird. He never thanked anybody, has no sensitiveness, is hot-tempered and does as some tell him. He has good points too. I think he means to be orthodox but does not know where he is being used and led.

It hurts me much to lose confidence in eminent churchmen but when you lose confidence you lose it and cannot explain it. I would be just to all men, especially to my long-time friends. I am sorry. I am disgusted too and think seriously of resigning but we cannot desert Machen et alii. I hate to be hated as I am. I am not the match of some on the other side intellectually and I am so remote that I know less than I ought. We meet in October. That will reveal much.

I have written this fully, frankly and ofcourse in strict confidence . I cannot prove all I have said but I am truthful as I understand it.

The Presbyterian Church is going to have a blow up within a few years or it is going to sell its heritage.

Cordially,

WCR:MAL W. C. Robinson

REV. JOHN H. THOMPSON
PASTOR GOOD WILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TEL. 27-F-2

MONTGOMERY, N. Y., September 14, 1928.

My dear Robinson,-

I don't want to bore you, but I would like to know something about what is going on in the Presbyterian Church. I have often heard of gag rule, but never saw it unadulterated before. Is it the Board of Directors of Princeton Seminary or some one else that thinks the clergy, not to say Elders of the Presbyterian Church, have become so stupid or imbecile that they are not to be trusted, even to know what is being done or is contemplated doing in the Church?

Have the Directors done any thing about solving the questions at Princeton? Are Stevenson and Erdman to remain until next May, and the rest of the faculty and the majority of the Board to be kicked out at that time and the Institution to be turned over as an anex of Union? The Board may be kicked out if they act, but they will, and ought to be kicked out if they do not act. Inaction and timidity have been the undoing of the conservative element in the Presbyterian Church. It looks as though it would be the undoing of the church itself.

Personally, I am losing patience with the inaction and secrecy that seems to characterize the whole matter and would like to know whether it is according to the wishes of the Board of Directors or not.

Smith seems to object to a whispering campain, but we do not hear even a whisper.

Fraternally yours,

J. H. Thompson.

My dear Robinson,-

I don't want to bore you, but I would like to know something about what is going on in the Presbyterian Church. I have often heard of gas talk, but never saw it manufactured before. Is it the Board of Directors of Princeton Seminary or some one else that thinks the clergy, not to say fellows of the Presbyterian Church, have become so stupid or [illegible] that they are not to be trusted, even to know what is going done or is contemplated doing in the Church?

Have the Directors done any thing about solving the question at Princeton? Are Stevenson and Erdman to remain until next May, and the rest of the Faculty and the majority of the Board to be kicked out at that time and the Institution to be buried over as an index of Union? The Board may be kicked out if they act, but they will, and ought to be kicked out if they do not act. Inaction and timidity have been the undoing of the conservative element in the Presbyterian Church. It looks as though it would be the undoing of the church itself.

Personally, I am losing patience with the inaction and secrecy that seems to characterize the whole matter and would like to know whether it is according to the wishes of the Board of Directors or not. Dwight seems to object to a whispering campaign, but we do not hear a whisper.

Fraternally yours,

April 24, 1928
462 Bellows Ave
Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

My Dear Mr. Robinson -

I'm very sorry that I didn't see you that Wednesday night to bid you "good-Bye" but I'm not much on bidding good-Bye's - I'd much rather not! I hate to say 'em - & anyway you had already said so many nice things to me & about me, that you surely couldn't say anything nicer. I sure do miss my Delli friends, & know I will never find anyone to take their places.

Every church I go into I find my self comparing it with "the Old First" & every preacher I seem to be comparing with Mr. Robinson & my dad - & well, they all loose by the comparison! I sure miss the church. But everyone here is so very friendly & easy to get aquainted with -

I love my work here. Have an ideal boss, & a splendid shoppe to

work in, so I want you to tell that anytime that you can find your way clear to make me a visit that I am ready to give you those scalp treatments I promised you!

How is Mrs Robinson? I hope you are both well.

I saw Richard last Sunday & he's looking fine - It sure seemed good to see him!

I could easily get homesick for my folks & my friends but I don't seem to have time for it. Work fills my days & the folks here keep me busy after business hours - they're so afraid that I will get homesick that they just rush me from one thing to another - & are so good to me.

I have my cousin, Kat to chum around with & she's a peach.

Hope everything is O.K. with you & yours - I'd love to "drop in" on you next Sunday, but don't expect it -

Sincerely, your friend -

Bernice